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## FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION(S)

**Submitted by:** The Permit Streamlining Working Group

**Finding: Update Regional Plans and Policies to acknowledge importance of fuel reduction efforts and facilitate implementation of these efforts**

TRPA, Lahontan, Nevada Department of Environmental Protection, and the LTBMU are all in the process of updating their ~~its~~ regional plans for the Lake Tahoe Basin. There is opportunity to revise policies and regulations associated with fuel reduction activities. New soils information from the Natural Resources Conservation Service inform identification of stream environment zones.

**Recommendation No. 1:**

Commission recommends plans and policies be updated to emphasize the importance of fuel reduction activities in the Tahoe Basin. Revisions of policies shall be focused on facilitating implementation of these projects. Specifically acknowledge the lack of feasibility of using over snow operations and acknowledge other low impact methods for removing vegetation in sensitive ~~habitats areas~~. Provide explicit exemption criteria for allowing SEZ disturbance to conduct fuel reduction projects.

**Impacts of Implementation:**

REQUIRED analysis of impacts on the following factors:

- ☐ Cost –none.
- ☐ Funding source - none
- ☐ Staffing – none – already being done with existing staff
- ☐ Existing regulations and/or laws – modifies and updates current policies and regulations

OPTIONAL analysis of impacts:

- ☐ Operational – none
- ☐ Social – none
- ☐ Political – positive political demonstration of the acknowledgement in planning documents of the priority and need of conducting fuel reduction projects in the Tahoe Basin.
- ☐ Policy – updates current policy – facilitates fuel reduction projects
- ☐ Health and Safety – assists landowners in reducing fire risks
- ☐ Environmental – assists landowners in reducing the potential for a catastrophic wild fire.
- ☐ Interagency – coordination needed to ensure consistent plans in the Tahoe Basin (already occurring)

**Recommendation No. 2:** The Commission recommends TRPA update the criteria for delineating SEZs to incorporate the new Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey and to clarify secondary criteria for delineating SEZs related to vegetation types, soil characteristics, and floodplain identification.

**Impacts of Implementation:**

REQUIRED analysis of impacts on the following factors:

- ☐ Cost –none
- ☐ Funding source - none
- ☐ Staffing – none
- ☐ Existing regulations and/or laws –none effected

OPTIONAL analysis of impacts:

- ☐ Operational – none
- ☐ Social – none
- ☐ Political –none
- ☐ Policy – clarification and improvement of existing policy
- ☐ Health and Safety – none.
- ☐ Environmental – none
- ☐ Interagency - none